ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A transaction process, such as a charging process, can be restricted
from being repeatedly performed when a data item that has been
5   downloaded once is to be redownloaded. A charged data table
including user identifying information and the name of a charged
data item associated with each other is prestored in a charge
management DB. When a data provision request is made for the
charged data item, the charging process is skipped at a data
10   distribution server, allowing the data item to be downloaded
without any charging process.

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